TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 27, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 22 totaled an estimated 19.3 billion ton-miles, 12.6 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 38 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 683.3 billion ton-miles, 15.0 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 22 totaled 427,936, up 8.5 percent from last year, and 0.6 percent above the preceding week of this year. It was the highest weekly figure since October 10, 1981. Compared with last year, loadings were up 12.9 percent in the East, 8.3 percent in the South and 5.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 11 of the 21 commodity groups decreased, but coal loadings increased by 27,138 cars (24.8 percent) and were the highest in any single week since November 14, 1981. Metallic ores showed a gain of 7,003 cars (52.4 percent). Twelve of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 15 totaled 55,589 cars, up 11.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 93,137 trailers and/or containers, 5.9 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 37 weeks of the year was 1,874,453 cars, 15.5 percent higher than last year, and 3,229,449 trailers and/or containers, up 14.9 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/22/84:

	Loadings in Week ended Sept. 22, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,333	I	513	1.7	D	1,216	4.0
Other farm products	3,506	D	466	11.7	I	297	8.5
Metallic ores	20,379	I	7,003	52.4	I	2,794	13.7
Coal	136,531	I	27,138	24.8	I	2,608	1.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,306	I	1,668	14.3	D	336	2.5
Nonmetallic minerals	12,502	D	625	4.8	D	1,209	9.7
Grain mill products	10,809	D	1,851	14.6	I	340	3.1
Food and kindred products	11,290	D	1,286	10.2	I	89	0.8
Primary forest products	14,393	D	84	0.6	I	179	1.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,492	I	163	2.2	I	405	5.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,991	D	532	3.4	D	99	0.7
Chemicals and allied products	25,955	I	1,240	5.0	I	806	3.1
Petroleum products	4,947	I	44	0.9	D	151	3.1
Stone, clay and glass products	12,139	I	311	2.6	I	359	3.0
Coke	4,681	D	685	12.8	D	414	8.8
Metals and products	8,288	D	300	3.5	I	236	2.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	17,478	D	1,503	7.9	D	3,530	20.2
Waste and scrap materials	9,672	I	658	7.3	D	108	1.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,250	D	1,546	17.6	D	409	5.6
All other carloads	61,824	I	3,957	6.8	I	2,077	3.4
LCL traffic	170	D	172	50.3	I	6	3.5
Total Cars Loaded	427,936	I	33,645	8.5	I	2,724	0.6
Corresponding week of 1983	394,291						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (38 weeks)	15,082,269	13,584,327	I 11.0
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
37 weeks ended September 15	664.0	576.9	I 15.1
Week ended September 22	19.3	17.1	I 12.6
38 weeks cumulative	683.3	594.1	I 15.0

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